

NOTICE OF MOTION

February 25, 2019

City Clerk
City Hall
Regina, Saskatchewan

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that we will submit the following NOTICE of MOTION at the February 25, 2019 meeting of City Council:

Re: Request of Province for Public Inquiry – Wascana/Brandt Building

WHEREAS Wascana Park is treasured by all Regina residents and Saskatchewan citizens;

WHEREAS it is vital that the Park be administered and managed having regard to the educational, research, cultural, recreational and conservational uses set out for the Park in legislation and the Park Master Plan;

WHEREAS matters related to the proposed Brandt Office Building in the Park have been shrouded in secrecy despite the need for transparency for the protection of the park; and,

WHEREAS there is concern that due process has not been followed with respect to the approval of the proposed building including, but not limited to, the following:

- the conduct of the 2015 “Expression of Interest” process that converted a CNIB fundraising campaign to replace a modest, one-storey building in the park into a Brandt development project to construct a significantly larger, four-storey, office building at the same location;
- the 2016 lease agreement between the Government of Saskatchewan and CNIB which lists incompatible park uses in Schedule C;
- the deficiencies in the 2016 public consultation process;
- the 2017 replacement of the tri-partite Wascana Centre Authority with the Provincial government dominated Provincial Capital Commission;
- the 2017 resignation of members from, and the 2018 ‘refreshment of,’ the Architectural Advisory Committee;
- the 2018 advertisement in a national newspaper by a commercial realtor for office, retail and other uses in the proposed four-storey building that would be incompatible with permitted park uses; and,
- the 2019 disregard of signage and demolition regulations associated with the office construction;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Mayor, on behalf of Regina City Council, write to the Premier of Saskatchewan, the Minister of Central Services and the Chair of the Provincial Capital Commission, asking that a public inquiry, led by an independent chair, be appointed to inquire into all aspects of the application for the construction of the proposed Brandt Office Building in Wascana Park, the said inquiry to have the full authority to gather oral and written evidence including correspondence, reports and meeting minutes, and all other relevant evidence, for the purpose of making that information part of the public record, and for the purpose of making recommendations with respect to the application; and
2. Further consideration of the application, and any construction activity associated with it, be halted pending the recommendations of the inquiry.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Hawkins
Councillor – Ward 2



Andrew Stevens
Councillor – Ward 3